

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 OIC-04 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00

FCC-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06 RSC-01 COME-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 MC-02 DOTE-00 FMC-04 CG-00 COA-02

DLOS-07 SWF-02 ACDA-19 NASA-04 SCI-06 DRC-01 AF-10

ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 /237 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6049

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FOR EB/TD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ETEL, ITU, US

SUBJECT: ITU WMARC - APPENDIX 25 TO RADIO REGULATIONS

REF: GENEVA 3296

1. COMMITTEE 5 MET ALL DAY MAY 25 (SATURDAY) AND DEBATED MERITS OF PRESENT EFFORTS TO PRODUCE A NEW APPENDIX 25. DEBATE WAS INTENSE. SOME MAJOR MARITIME INTERESTS EXPRESSED GREAT DISSATISFACTION WITH DRAFT PLAN UNDER DEVELOPMENT BY WORKING GROUP 5C-3 BECAUSE BY ADMISSION OF ITS DRAFTERS IT BASED ON SUBJECTIVE ASSESSMENTS RATHER THAN ENGINEERING OR OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS PER SE, REFLECTS IMPOSSIBLE SHARING REQUIREMENTS, AND OVERALL IS WORSE THAN PRESENT APPENSIC 25. USA DEL OFFERED PRODUCE AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH BY MAY 27; THE ALTERNATIVE HAVING BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEVELOPED OVER PAST TWO WEEKS IN COORDINATION WITH

FRANCE, UK AND USSR (ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL IS BASICALLY TWO RESOLUTIONS WHICH WOULD ENABLE IFRB PRODUCE NEW APPENDIX 25 AFTER THE 1974 WMARC). FURTHER DEBATE ENSURED WITH MUCH OPPOSITION TO CONSIDERATION OF AN ALTERNATIVE TO PRESENT COURSE OF ACTION. USSR THEN PROPOSED THAT COMMITTEE 5 REQUEST A SPECIAL PLENARY MEETING FOR MAY 27 AT WHICH TIME SITUATION WOULD BE ASSESSED AND APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED TO COMMITTEE 5.

2. PLENARY MET IN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION AT 1600 HOURS MAY 27 FOLLOWING A SHARPLY DEBATED SPECIAL MEETING OF COMMITTEE 5 WHERE US DELS ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL WAS INTRODUCED AND WITHOUT EXAMINATION GIVEN A COLD SHOULDER BY MAJORITY OF PARTICIPANTS. ATTITUDE OF COMMITTEE 5 CARRIED INTO PLENARY WHERE US PROPOSAL WAS SUPPORTED BY A FEW AND REJECTED BY MANY. AT MIDNIGHT, VOTE WAS TAKEN ON SAUDI ARABIA (ZAIDAN) PROPOSAL THAT DEBATE BE CLOSED AND A VOTE TAKEN ON THE QUESTION "SHOULD THE DRAFT PLAN BE ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE AND COMMITTEE 5 BE DIRECTED TO CONTINUE ON THE PRESENT COURSE" (THUS REJECTING CONSIDERATION OF THE US AND OTHER PROPOSALS).

VOTE WAS: YES - 50, NO - 15 (US, UK, FRANCE, USSR), ABSTAIN - 11. DUE LATE HOUR PLENARY DID NOT TREAT CERTAIN PROPOSALS WHICH WERE MADE DURING THE DEBATE (BY OTHER THAN US DEL) FOR MODIFICATION OF TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEE 5'S WORKING GROUP 5C-3 (CHAIRMAN BY CANADA); SUCH PROPOSALS HAVING BEEN MADE AND SECONDED AS BEING IN ADDITION TO THE BASIC PROPOSAL BY SAUDI ARABIA AS VOTED ON PREVIOUSLY.

3. 3. EXTRAORDINARY PLENARY MEETING RECONVENED AT 0930 HOURS MAY 28 TO CONSIDER REMAINING MATTERS. THE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS WERE THAT WORKING GROUP 5C-3 CONSIDER:
A) THAT EACH ADMINISTRATIONS FREQUENCY COMPLEMENT FOR RADIO TELEPHONY BE ESTABLISHED ON BASIS OF ONE PRIMARY FREQUENCY AND APPROPRIATE NUMBER OF SECONDARY FREQUENCIES IN EACH OF THE BANDS CONCERNED (NETHERLAND'S PROPOSAL);
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B) IN ANY GIVEN FREQUENCY BAND COMPLEMENT THE AUTHORIZED POWER BE SET AT 10 KW FOR TWO FREQUENCIES, 2 KW FOR NEXT EIGHT FREQUENCIES, -500 WATTS FOR REMAINING FREQUENCIES (ALGERIAN PROPOSAL); AND
C) THAT AN AD HOC GROUP BE SET UP TO EXAMINE US DOCUMENT NO. 437, AND ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS AS APPROPRIATE, TO DRAFT, IN PARALLEL WITH WORKING GROUP 5C-3, PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT AN APPENDIX 25 PLAN (USSR PROPOSAL).

4. PROPOSALS 3 A AND B ABOVE WERE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE 5 WITHOUT VOTE IN VIEW OF OBVIOUS MAJORITY SUPPORT. PROPOSAL 3 C WENT TO VOTE AND WAS REJECTED BY VOTE OF YES - 18 (US, UK, FRANCE AND USSR), NO - 38, ABSTAIN - 17.

5. THE REVISION OF APPENDIX 25 IS PERMEATED WITH POLITICS AND EMOTION CENTERED ON THE PHILOSOPHY OF "EQUALITY"; SOUND ENGINEERING PRACTICES ARE LARGELY DISCOUNTED. ALTHOUGH SOME DEVELOPED AND MARITIME COUNTRIES ARE INCLUDED IN THE OPPOSITION TO USR PROPOSAL, THE LIST IS LARGELY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND VOCIFEROUSLY LED BY ALGERIA AND SAUDIA ARABIA.

6. US DEL (PARTICULARLY FCC (ATT AND INDEPENDENTS), COAST GUARD AND NAVY) VERY CONCERNED THAT APPENDIX 25 MOD PRODUCED BY THIS WMARC WILL HAVE SERIOUSLY ADVERSE IMPACTS ON US INTERESTS. DETAILED ASSESSMENT IS BEING PREPARED FOR FORWARDING NEXT DAY OR TWO. GIVEN THIS SITUATION THERE IS STRONG PROBABILITY US DEL WILL SUGGEST APPROPRIATE RESERVATION BY US. IN LAST NIGHTS' DEBATE, UK, FRANCE AND USSR EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY INDICATED POSSIBILITY OF THEIR NON-ACCEPTANCE OF WMARC DECISION THIS MATTER.DALE

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